

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of displaying a multi-level menu, comprising the steps of:

displaying menu items of a first menu level in a first display area, wherein the menu items of the first menu level have a fixed position relative to a third display area;

displaying, in response to a selection of a menu item of the first menu level, menu items of a second menu level in a second display area, the second menu level being subordinate to the selected menu item of the first menu level, wherein the second display area has a fixed orthogonal position with respect to the first display area irrespective of a position of the selected menu item of the first menu level, and wherein the first and second display areas extend along different orthogonal borders of the third display area; and

displaying a connection indicator connecting the selected menu item of the first menu level and a menu item of the second menu level such that the connection indicator traverses both the first display area and the second display area around the different orthogonal borders of the third display area.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, characterized in that the first and the second display areas are oblong and arranged substantially orthogonally relative to each other.

4. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 3, characterized in that the first and the second display areas extend along adjacent borders of the third display area.

5. (Original) A method as defined in claim 4, characterized in that the multi-level menu constitutes a database filter for selecting data objects in accordance with selected menu items, the method further comprising a step of displaying the selected objects in the third display area.

6. (Original) A method as defined in claim 5, characterized in that the data objects are programs in an electronic program guide database, and the menu items of the first menu level correspond to main genres of the programs, and the menu items of the second menu level correspond to subgenres of a selected main genre of the first menu level.

7. (Currently Amended) A display device comprising multi-level menu means for:

displaying menu items of a first menu level in a first display area, wherein the menu items of the first menu level have a fixed position relative to a third display area;

displaying, in response to a selection of a menu item of the first menu level, menu items of a second menu level in a second display area, the second menu level being subordinate to the selected menu item of the first menu level, wherein the second display area has a fixed orthogonal position with respect to the first display area irrespective of a position of the selected menu item of the first menu level, and wherein the first and second display areas extend along different orthogonal borders of the third display area; and

displaying a connection indicator connecting the selected menu item of the first menu level and a menu item of the second menu level such that the connection indicator traverses both the first display area and the second display area around the different orthogonal borders of the third display area.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Previously Presented) A display device as defined in claim 7, characterized in that the first and the second display areas are oblong and arranged substantially orthogonally relative to each other.

10. (Previously Presented) A display device as defined in claim 9, characterized in that the first and the second display areas are positioned along adjacent borders of the third display area.

11. (Original) A display device as defined in claim 10, characterized in that the display device further comprises database means for storing a plurality of data objects, and the multi-level menu constitutes a database filter for selecting data objects in accordance with selected menu items, the database means being adapted to display the selected objects in the third display area.

12. (Previously Presented) A display device as defined in claim 11, characterized in that the display device further comprises electronic program guide means, the data objects being programs in the electronic program guide, and the menu items of the first menu level correspond to main genres of the programs, and the menu items of the second menu level correspond to subgenres of a selected main genre of the first menu level.

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13. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for performing, when executed on a programmable computing device, the steps of:

displaying menu items of a first menu level in a first display area, wherein the menu items of the first menu level have a fixed position relative to a third display area;

displaying, in response to a selection of a menu item of the first menu level, menu items of a second menu level in a second display area, the second menu level being subordinate to the selected menu item of the first menu level, wherein the second display area has a fixed orthogonal position with respect to the first display area irrespective of a position of the selected menu item of the first menu level, and wherein the first and second display areas extend along different orthogonal borders of the third display area; and

displaying a connection indicator connecting the selected menu item of the first menu level and a menu item of the second menu level such that the connection indicator traverses both the first display area and the second display area around the different orthogonal borders of the third display area.

14. (Previously Presented) A computer program as defined in claim 13, characterized in that the first and the second display areas are oblong and arranged substantially orthogonally relative to each other.

15. (Previously Presented) A computer program as defined in claim 13, characterized in that the first and the second display areas extend along adjacent borders of the third display area.

16. (Previously Presented) A computer program as defined in claim 13, characterized in that the multi-level menu constitutes a database filter for selecting data objects in accordance with selected menu items, the computer program further for performing a step of displaying the selected objects in the third display area.

17. (Previously Presented) A computer program as defined in claim 16, characterized in that the data objects are programs in an electronic program guide database, and the menu items of the first menu level correspond to main genres of the programs, and the menu items of the second menu level correspond to subgenres of a selected main genre of the first menu level.

18. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the connection indicator comprises a first line from the selected menu item of the first menu level and a second line to a menu item of the second menu level, the second line connected to the first line.

19. (Previously Presented) A display device as defined in claim 7, wherein the connection indicator comprises a first line from the selected menu item of the first menu level and a second line to a menu item of the second menu level, the second line connected to the first line.

20. (Previously Presented) A computer program as defined in claim 13, wherein the connection indicator comprises a first line from the selected menu item of the first menu level and a second line to a menu item of the second menu level, the second line connected to the first line.